

2013 BUDGET LEGISLATION FISCAL NOTE

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Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE, relating to the Seattle Department of Transportation's Commuter Services Program; authorizing the Director of Finance and Administrative Services to adjust parking fees in the Seapark and Seattle Municipal Tower Garages in association with the Commute Trip Reduction Program's Guaranteed Ride Home Program for City employees; establishing that such fees be lower than regular daily parking fees in those facilities; and deleting obsolete language and amending Ordinance 119758 in connection thereto.

Summary of the Legislation:

This legislation amends Ordinance 119758 to authorize the Director of Finance and Administrative Services, upon conferring with the Director of Transportation, to adjust the fees that City employees pay to park in the Seattle Municipal Tower (SMT) and Seapark garages as part of the Commute Trip Reduction Program's Guaranteed Ride Home benefit. The legislation also removes obsolete language from Ordinance 119758 that is no longer applicable.

Background:

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) administers a Commute Trip Reduction program that is designed to reduce single occupancy motor vehicle commute trips. As part of the Commute Trip Reduction program, SDOT implemented a Guaranteed Ride Home Program that allows City employees to park their personal vehicles in the Seapark and Seattle Municipal Tower garages at a reduced rate, up to twice every month. This program enables employees who normally commute to work by foot, ferry, vanpool, carpool, bicycle, bus, light rail, train, streetcar, or some other form of transit, with the flexibility to bring a car to work occasionally to address special errands or other mid-day trips.

The proposed legislation authorizes the Director of Finance and Administrative Services to set the Commute Trip Reduction/Guaranteed Ride Home parking rate at up to 80 percent of the rate paid by the public for daily parking in the Seapark and SMT garages upon conferring with the Director of Transportation. The current Commute Trip Reduction/Guaranteed Ride Home rate of \$7.00, which includes in-and-out privileges, is substantially below the \$14 Early Bird rate charged by Seapark and SMT. City employees take advantage of this very popular program approximately 28,000 times a year. The Mayor's Proposed 2013 Budget assumes a rate of \$10.00, which is expected to increase SMT and Seapark garage revenues by approximately \$85,000 per year. The new \$10.00 rate will still provide a significant discount to employees who need to bring their cars to work every now and then.

X This legislation has financial implications.

This legislation authorizes the Director of Finance and Administrative Services to set the Commute Trip Reduction rate for the Guaranteed Ride Home Program. The recommended rate of \$10/day for 2013 is the subject of a separate Budget Issue Paper. The anticipated \$85,000 in revenue resulting from this action is assumed in the Mayor's 2013 Proposed Budget.

Summary of Changes to Revenue Generated Specifically from this Legislation:

	Revenue Source	2013 Proposed	2014 Endorsed
Total Fees and Charges Resulting From Passage of This Ordinance	CTR City Employee Parking Fees in the Seattle Municipal Tower and Seapark Garages	\$85,000	\$85,000

Revenue Change Notes:

Anticipated Total Revenue from Entire Program, Including Changes Resulting from this Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Revenue Source	Total 2013 Revenue	Total 2014 Revenue
FAS Operating Fund (50300)	Parking Fees	\$2,624,721	\$2,679,721
TOTAL		\$2,624,721	\$2,679,721

Total Revenue Notes: This table reflects gross revenues, not net of operating expenses. FAS operates the Seattle Municipal Tower and Seapark Garages, and collects all associated revenues through FAS' operating fund. This legislation revises obsolete language that pertained to the old Municipal Building, which did not have a parking pay service, as customers only paid through indirect means, such as payroll deduction, monthly charges, etc. As the Municipal Building garage no longer exists, and FAS operates and pays all operating expenses and debt service, utilizing parking revenues to offset S1 space rent, all associated revenues are appropriately directed to FAS' Operating Fund.

Other Implications:

- a) Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?
This legislation allows the Director of Finance and Administrative Services to adjust Commute Trip Reduction / Guaranteed Ride Home Program parking rates in the Seapark and Seattle Municipal Park Garages. The Director already has authority to set other parking rates at downtown civic garages.

- b) What is the financial cost of not implementing this legislation?
Current Commute Trip Reduction rates have been in place since 1999 and are quite low compared to market rates. Leaving them as they are will forego approximately \$85,000 in additional revenue.
- c) Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?
The Commute Trip Reduction Program is operated by the Seattle Department of Transportation. This legislation requires coordination between the Department of Finance and Administrative Services and the Department of Transportation before rate changes Program can be made for Program participants.
- d) What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?
A new Commute Trip Reduction parking rate could be legislated from time to time.
- e) Is the legislation subject to public hearing requirements? No
- f) Other Issues: None

Please list attachments to the fiscal note below: None